
Subject: Re: botton size ?

Posted by [mallors](#) on Mon, 10 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <MPG.135ba4fb5934ff9989ac0@news.frii.com>,
davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

[cut]

>

> This works with *most* widgets. For example, I find that you
> can't resize droplist widgets this way on UNIX platforms
> (although the documentation gives no indication that it won't
> work).

In the IDL 5.3 WIDGET_DROPLIST documentation under the
XSIZE keyword:

"The desired width of the droplist widget area, in units
specified by the UNITS keyword (pixels are the default)...
This keyword does not control the size of the droplist button
or of the dropped list. Instead, it controls the size "around"
the droplist button and, as such, is not particularly useful."

It's not what we wanted to hear, but it is there :-)

--

~~~~~  
Robert S. Mallozzi

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Huntsville, AL 35812  
~~~~~

Subject: Re: botton size ?

Posted by [mallors](#) on Mon, 10 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <38f1eaa1\$0\$26046@news.execpc.com>,
"pei zeng" <pei@prism-cs.com> writes:

> Hi,

>

> I have a dumb question: when I place 3 button with value 'Apply', 'OK' and
> 'Cancel', respectively, in one row, the buttons will have different size,
> and I can not find a way to make them have the exact same size. Can anybody

> help me?
>
> thanks

Hi,

The GRID_LAYOUT keyword to WIDGET_BASE will do this in a portable way:

```
base = WIDGET_BASE (/COLUMN)
grid = WIDGET_BASE (base, COLUMN = 3, /GRID_LAYOUT)
b1 = WIDGET_BUTTON (grid, VALUE = 'Button 1')
b2 = WIDGET_BUTTON (grid, VALUE = 'Button 2, with more text')
b3 = WIDGET_BUTTON (grid, VALUE = 'B')
WIDGET_CONTROL, /REALIZE, base
```

All buttons will be as wide as the widest "natural width" button. The natural widths are derived from the button labels.

--

~~~~~

|                                                                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Robert S. Mallozzi                                                              | 256-544-0887                 |
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| <a href="http://cspar.uah.edu/~mallozzir/">http://cspar.uah.edu/~mallozzir/</a> | Huntsville, AL 35812         |

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Subject: Re: button size ?

Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 10 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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pei zeng (pei@prism-cs.com) writes:

> I have a dumb question: when I place 3 button with value 'Apply', 'OK' and
> 'Cancel', respectively, in one row, the buttons will have different size,
> and I can not find a way to make them have the exact same size. Can anybody
> help me?

When a button is created it has a "natural" size that depends upon the text on the button. Buttons size themselves to fit what is on them, normally. You can explicitly size buttons with the Scr_XSize and Scr_YSize keywords, but this is not always a good idea, since people prefer different fonts, different font sizes, etc., and your button interface can end up looking decidedly unprofessional.

Still...you sometimes want a neat, all-the-same-size look. I know I do. :-)

So what I usually do is this:

1. Create the buttons with their "natural" size.
2. Before I realize the widget hierarchy, I find out the size of the largest button. The code will look something like this:

```
big_size = 0
FOR j=0,2 DO BEGIN
g = Widget_Info(buttonsID[j], Geometry)
  big_size = big_size > g.scr_xsize
ENDFOR
```

3. Make all the buttons the same big size. The code looks like this:

```
FOR j=0,2 DO Widget_Control, buttonsID[j], Scr_XSize=big_size
```

This works with *most* widgets. For example, I find that you can't resize droplist widgets this way on UNIX platforms (although the documentation gives no indication that it won't work). On machines where it works all the time (i.e., Windows), it works like a charm. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: button size ?

Posted by [Alex Schuster](#) on Mon, 10 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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pei zeng wrote:

- > I have a dumb question: when I place 3 button with value 'Apply', 'OK' and
- > 'Cancel', respectively, in one row, the buttons will have different size,

> and I can not find a way to make them have the exact same size. Can anybody
> help me?

You can use the XSIZE keyword in the call to WIDGET_BUTTON. It gives the
size in pixels. Maybe the GRID_LAYOUT keyword to WIDGET_BASE also helps.

Alex

--

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